



On your mark, get set, go!

As athletes and spectators across the world prepare for the 2022 Winter Olympic games in Beijing, we are weaving our way through the National Archives Catalog to bring you records related to [historic Olympic Games and participants](#).

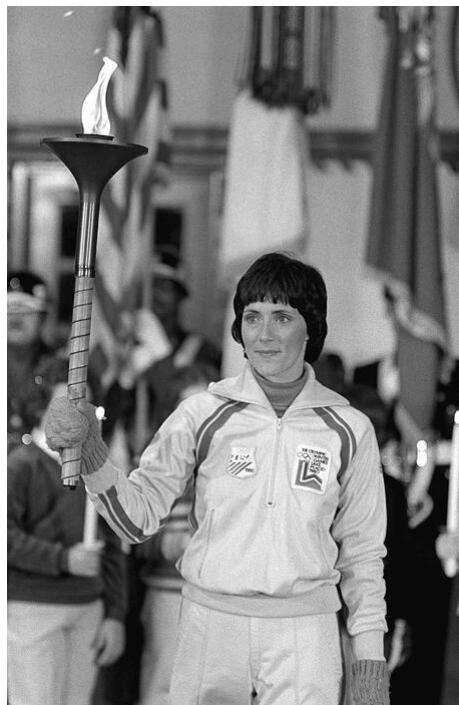


[Downhill Skiing Winter Olympics GIF](#) By US National Archives

Join us as we celebrate athletes skiing, skating, and sledding their way to victory throughout history. Let the games begin!



Members of the 1980 US Gold Medal Olympic hockey team stand below the Olympic flame after lighting it, at Rice-Eccles Olympic Stadium, during the opening ceremonies of the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, 2/8/2002. [National Archives Identifier 6527810](#)



First Olympic torchbearer Sandy Norris, after her relay, stands at attention at the flame arrival ceremony. The flame, first ignited in Olympia, Greece, is carried in a series of 52 torchbearers in a 1,000-mile relay run from the base to Lake Placid, New York, to open the XIII Winter Olympics, 1/31/1980. [National Archives Identifier 6344691](#)



Major (MAJ) Lyle Nelson, Vermont Army National Guard, takes part in the biathlon competition, part of the 1988 Winter Olympics, 2/20/1988. [National Archives Identifier 6437918](#)



Vonetta Flowers, left, and World Class Athlete Specialist Jill Bakken, USA, during the medal ceremony in Salt Lake City, after winning the gold medal in women's two-man bobsled for the United States in the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. The team was not favored going in but ended up breaking a 46 year drought for the United States, winning the Gold and setting a track record in the process, 2/20/2002. [National Archives Identifier 6527762](#)



Captain (CPT) William White, 3245th Security Police Squadron, US Air Force, and a member of the US Bobsled Team, takes a break prior to participating in a bobsled race, part of the bobsledding competition during the 1988 Winter Olympics, 2/13/1988. [National Archives Identifier 6437928](#)

Competing in the Biathlon event, World class athlete Sergeant Kristina Sabasteanski, USA, strides her way up the opening hill, with her .22 caliber, bolt-action rifle slung on her back, during her anchor leg of the women's 4 X 7.5km Relay competition in the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, 2/18/2002. [National Archives Identifier 6527746](#)



President Ronald Reagan Hitting a Hockey Puck During a White House Event for The United States Olympic Hockey Team and Washington Capitals Hockey Team in The Rose Garden, 9/29/1983. [National Archives Identifier 75853011](#)



Driver Brian Shimer and brakeman Darrin Steele of USA-2 hurtle their way down the track at the Utah Olympic Park during the Men's two-man bobsled at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, 2/16/2002. [National Archives Identifier 6527733](#)

Winter Olympics GIFs on GIPHY

Explore animated history from the holdings of the U.S. National Archives on our official Giphy channel! You can find a variety of vintage archival GIFs featuring Olympic athletes, including several from the [1964 Innsbruck Winter Games](#).

View more Olympic GIFs: [US National Archives on GIPHY](#)



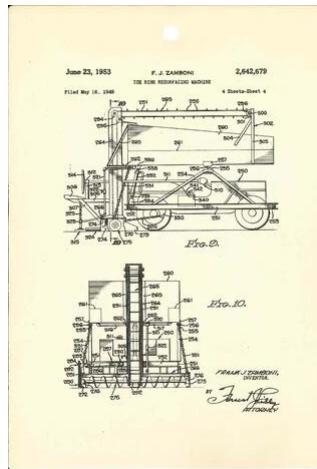
[Winter Olympics Flame GIF](#) By US National Archives



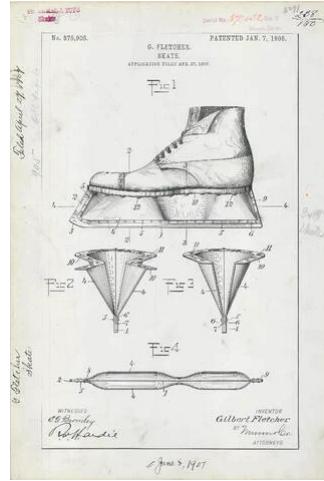
[Figure Skating Sport GIF](#) By US National Archives

Winter Sports Patents

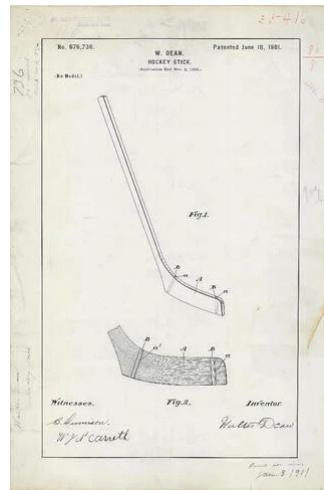
Did you know that the [National Archives is custodian of several patents](#) related to winter sports played in those Olympic games? In a video presentation, Robert Beebe, archivist, shows us his [favorite patents of Olympic inventions](#). Please enjoy a few other winter sports-related patent drawings from the holdings of the National Archives.



Patent Case File: *Ice Rink Resurfacing Machine*, Inventor Frank J. Zamboni. [National Archives Identifier 83876135](#)



Patent Drawing for G. Fletcher's Skate, 1/7/1908. [National Archives Identifier 5928302](#)



Patent Drawing for W. Dean's Hockey Stick, 6/18/1901. [National Archives Identifier 5928299](#)

Interested in more information about historic Winter Olympic games? View additional online resources from the National Archives:

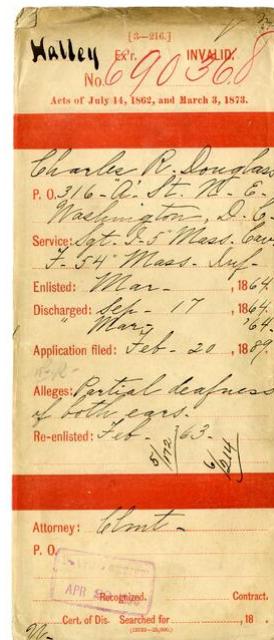
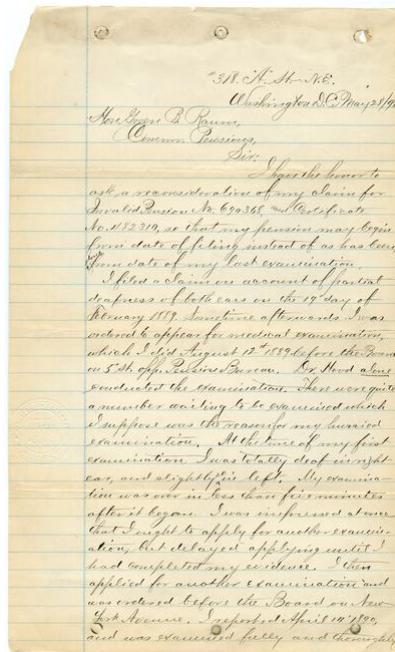
- 1964 Winter Olympics on the Unwritten Record blog [This Week in Universal News: The 1964 Winter Olympics – The Unwritten Record](#)
- [Are You Watching the XXIII Winter Olympics? – Pieces of History](#)
- [Winter Olympics | National Archives](#)

Citizen Archivist Volunteer Opportunities

Transcription Challenge

Join us as a Citizen Archivist and help make records more searchable and findable in the Catalog!

In celebration of African American History Month, we invite you to help [transcribe](#) the [fully digitized pension application](#) file for Laura A. Douglass, Widow of Sergeant Charles R. Douglass, Company F, 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment and Company I, 5th Massachusetts Cavalry Regiment. Charles R. Douglass was the third son of abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman Frederick Douglass. This Civil War pension file includes records for disability pension in the decades after the war and his second wife's application for a widow's pension.



Approved Pension File for Laura A. Douglass, Widow of Sergeant Charles R. Douglass, Company F, 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment and Company I, 5th Massachusetts Cavalry Regiment (WC-898477). [National Archives Identifier 77822504](#)

Will you join us for this [transcription challenge](#)? Together we can transcribe all 127 pages of this approved pension file in February. Every word you transcribe helps unlock history. New to the Citizen Archivist program? [Learn how to register and get started.](#)

To learn more about the life and legacy of Frederick Douglass, we invite you to watch this recorded panel discussion in honor of the bicentennial of the birth of Frederick Douglass, available on the [National Archives YouTube channel](#).



History Hub

Start your research on History Hub



Have a question? [Find your answer on History Hub!](#)

Some recent winter-themed questions include:



Where can I find records and correspondence from the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Games?



Can you help me locate films and footage from the U.S. Ski Patrol School?



Who was the first group to introduce skiing to Alaska?



Where can I find documentation on the use of Alaskan Malamutes in the U.S. Army?

Check out our recent newsletter for more details, information, and instructions about [using History Hub for your research](#).

[Citizen Archivists, there's a group just for you!](#) You can share tips and strategies, find new challenges, and get support for your work. Get started with our poll: [What](#)

Kinds of records do you like to transcribe?

Make [History Hub](#) your first stop! You can ask—or answer—questions on History Hub, or see if your question has already been answered.



COVID-19 Update

The National Archives is committed to the health and safety of our visitors and staff. We are closely monitoring the situation regarding COVID-19, and we are working with public health officials and our counterpart agencies to monitor and respond to the evolving conditions and following CDC guidelines.

For more information, visit <https://www.archives.gov/coronavirus>

Questions or comments? Email us at catalog@nara.gov



National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland

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